

The Lexington Intelligencer.

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BELOW \$1,000,000 MARK.

Bonded Debt of State Will be No More After Ensuing Year.

GOVERNOR DOCKERY ON FINANCE.

Shows How Republican Party Corruptly Wasted State's Funds.

The board of fund commissioners, consisting of Governor Dockery, Attorney-General Crow, Auditor Allen and Treasurer Williams, met recently and ordered the payment of \$500,000 of the outstanding bonds of the state, says the Jefferson City Tribune.

By this action of the board of fund commissioners the bonded debt, exclusive of the school certificates, is reduced to \$787,000—every dollar of which will be paid during the ensuing year, notwithstanding \$1,000,000 has been appropriated from this fund for the world's fair.

Gov. Dockery was seen Thursday by a representative of the Tribune, and was in the best of humor because of the rapid extinguishment of the bonded debt. Referring to the action of the board, the governor said:

"It has been a long, weary road for the tax-payers of Missouri, but we are now nearing the period when the last vestige of the public debt, exclusive of the school certificates, will have been fully paid. I most heartily congratulate the people of Missouri.

"The public debt had its origin in the riotous waste of the securities of the state. Prior to the civil war, the state had loaned its credit in aid of the construction of railways, and had taken a first lien upon the railroads to secure the indebtedness. The value of these roads was fully sufficient to secure the state from loss. Governor

arrives, to adopt the suggestion of a distinguished Missourian and call the people of Missouri together at the state capital to spend a day of rejoicing. The republican state administrations, in dealing with the public debt were very costly to Missouri tax-payers. The load of debt they imposed by profligate legislation has been a grievous burden upon the productive industries of our state, but the people may well rejoice that the hour of emancipation from state debt is near at hand."

Miss Mary Graves Honored.

Miss Mary A. Graves, of Lexington, has been named as sponsor for the Missouri division, United Sons of Confederate Veterans, for the Dallas reunion, as the following letter will show:

St. Louis, Mo., Feb. 21, 1902.

Miss Mary A. Graves, Lexington, Mo.
DEAR MISS GRAVES:—It is my duty and extreme pleasure, as division commander, to appoint a sponsor for the Missouri division who will grace the reunion of the United Sons of Confederate Veterans to be held at Dallas, Texas, at the time of the reunion of the United Confederate Veterans on April 22nd, 23rd, 24th and 25th, 1902. I therefore appoint you to serve in that capacity and, relying upon your loyalty, I expect an early acceptance from you.

The people of Dallas will pay the hotel bills of the ladies and the railroads have made a rate of one cent per mile for that occasion. It is anticipated this will be the greatest reunion we have ever held, and our representation would be hopelessly incomplete without a delegation of our Missouri girls. I may truly say that they are "first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of their countrymen."

Hoping you will accompany us to Dallas, I remain

Yours sincerely,

CHILTON ATKINSON,
Major General Commanding, Division of Missouri, U. S. C. V.

Miss Graves is a daughter of Judge Alexander Graves and is in every way worthy the honor thus bestowed upon her. She will accept the proffered honor and will attend the Dallas reunion.

Ernest Gamble's Hit.

St. Joseph Herald, February 11, 1900.

The immense success of Ernest Gamble at Tuesday evening's Choral concert has been equalled in St. Joseph only by that achieved by Lillian Nordica upon the occasion of her two brilliant engagements here. The famous basso sings with ease, confidence and absolute mastery of artistic expression. His voice, rich, melodious and sympathetic, was heard to particular advantage in the beautiful old Scotch melody, "The Bonnie Banks of Loch Lomond," which was given with exquisite feeling. Leslie Stewart's "Baudolino," a composition directly opposite in spirit, served to introduce him to the audience and earn for him an enthusiastic recall. He was unusually gracious as to encores, all of which were well chosen and displayed the possibilities of his wonderful voice. The singer has a fine stage presence and a magnetic personality.

Married in Oklahoma.

A letter received in Lexington tells of the wedding, on Wednesday of last week, of Mr. F. Leslie Slusher, late of Lexington but now in the employ of a bank at Hobart, Oklahoma, and Miss Grace Davis of Iowa, same territory. The bride is said to be a member of one of the first families of Oklahoma. Her father is to be the banking business at Hobart.

Mr. Slusher is well known and well liked in Lexington—in fact, is esteemed by all who know him. May no trouble appear to mar the happy married life of this young couple.

Mrs. Todhunter Honored.

Mrs. Ryland Todhunter has been named by the major-general commanding, Elijah Gates, as chaperone, or chief maid of honor for the Missouri division, United Confederate Veterans, for the national reunion to be held at Dallas during the latter part of April. No Missouri lady has been more active in the cause of the battle-scarred veterans who wore the gray since the falling of the stars and bars at Appomattox, and the honor could not have been conferred upon one more worthy to wear it.

Mrs. Dr. G. W. Bates returned Wednesday evening from a two weeks visit to friends and relatives at Windsor and Chilton.

INCIDENTAL TO BATTLE OF LEXINGTON.

Gallant Soldier in the Ranks Gives His Impressions of This Much Noted War Event

IN LETTERS TO HIS RELATIVES AT THAT TIME.

Thought General Price Dillatory—Was Killed at the Battle of Pea Ridge Later On.

Some time since the INTELLIGENCER published what purported to be Col. Mulligan's account of the battle of Lexington, which story was taken from the columns of a newspaper published in the state of Virginia. In the same issue we stated editorially that the narrative, alleged to have come from the lips of Col. Mulligan, was filled with inaccuracies, the editorial carrying with it the inference that we doubted the authenticity of the story. In other words it was simply published for what it was worth.

Later we published the official report of Gen. Price, submitted to Gov. Jackson as soon as possible following the close of this much noted civil war incident in Missouri.

As the report of Gen. Price doubtless is authentic and was made by the general commanding the confederate forces, and the alleged Mulligan interview came from the officer in command of the union forces, two letters written by a soldier who took part in this battle will not be amiss, as what he says carries with it a hint of the feeling that permeated the ranks of the boys in gray at the time.

Writing to his sister and mother, respectively, one prior to and the other just following this war episode, Lieutenant-Colonel W. S. Hyde, who was killed at the battle of Pea Ridge later on, complained of the dillatory tactics of Gen. Price and called attention to the seeming waste of time in striking the enemy after the confederate army reached Lexington. However, it is not the purpose of the INTELLIGENCER to go into a discussion of the merits or demerits of the commanding officers of either of the armies, but merely to cite incidents connected with this battle in a manner that will doubtless prove interesting to its readers. Col. Hyde's mother and sister resided at Keytesville, Chariton county, at the time he wrote and the gallant officer who was killed at Pea Ridge has relatives now residing in Lexington, through whose kindness we have been enabled to publish the interesting letters under discussion, which follow:

BEFORE THE BATTLE.

Lexington, Mo., Sept. 16, 1861.

Dear Sister—I wrote from Fort Scott giving an account of two skirmishes we had, one at the fort and the other some six miles off. We were approaching the fort with our main force and were six miles only from it when a message from Gov. Jackson directed Gen. Price to go immediately to Warrenburg. We made forced marches, traveled night and day—but reached Warrenburg six hours after the enemy had left. We immediately pushed off to Lexington and reached that place on Tuesday evening. The sun was about two hours high as we were going into town. The enemy were posted on the right side of the road in a cornfield and on the left in an orchard. We drove them from their positions in a few minutes; they fell back upon other positions from which we drove them, one after the other, till they were in their fortifications. We cannonaded the seminary till dark, when our army was withdrawn to the fairground. The enemy have fortified around the college by digging a deep and wide ditch and throwing the dirt on the inside, making a high bank. In the skirmish on Thursday evening we lost several men, I do not know how many.

This is Monday morning. We have remained here within two miles of town from Thursday evening. The enemy have been burning the town day and night, and everyone is asking why we do not go through with the battle. We have been here long enough for the enemy to get reinforced from St. Louis.

It rained all day Saturday and we

could not fight; it is raining again this morning. We are all in suspense and the men are grumbling on account of the delay.

The federals have robbed nearly every house in the county. They have taken thousands of dollars. There has been a perfect reign of terror inaugurated in this county. They have shot at citizens on their farms, pursuing their peaceful avocations—have insulted women.

Gov. Jackson joined us the other day below Warrensburg. He reports that he has made every arrangement with the confederate government.

Gen. Albert Johnston, of Salt Lake notoriety, will take command of the forces in Missouri. I shall hail his arrival as the dawn of a new and brighter day. We have never had any discipline—have scarcely the organization of an effective mob. We make forced marches to reach the enemy, and when we get within a few miles come to a halt for several days. If Johnston does not come soon we will be routed and the last hope of Missouri will fade away. Price is a brave man, exposes himself in battle, but is lacking in generalship.

Ben McCullough has gone back to Arkansas. Jeff Davis ought to remove him immediately.

I will write you again in a few days if I go through this fight all right.

Your brother, W. D. HYDE.

AFTER THE BATTLE.

Lexington, Mo., Sept. 25, 1861.

Dear Mother—My last letter gave an account of our operations up to Wednesday. In this I will try and give an account of what has taken place since that time. Last Wednesday morning—after a delay of five days since our first skirmish in Lexington—the army was put in motion for a general assault upon the enemy's works. We marched up the river and then came down to get between the fortifications and the river. We met the enemy's advance and drove it back in a few minutes. Gen. Slack's division moved down the river and captured the steamer Clarabell and two steam ferry boats. The boats were laden with coffee, salt, sugar, molasses, etc. We succeeded in establishing ourselves between the fortifications and the river on Wednesday. Wednesday night the enemy made two desperate efforts to drive our men from their position, but were repulsed. Thursday a scattering fire was kept up throughout the day; and that night the enemy were allowed till 12 o'clock to remove their wounded into town. As soon as the time was out our cannon opened with vigor which was continued at intervals until day. Friday morning found our men on all sides of the enemy's works. A sharp fire was kept up until near twelve o'clock. Whenever a fellow would show his head above the embankment two or more shots were fired at him. About twelve o'clock our men, who had rolled baled hemp up to the embankment, commenced a heavy fire which lasted about three hours; our batteries all opened at the same time. The enemy ran up a flag of truce and asked to know on what terms they could surrender. Gen. Price demanded an unconditional surrender, which was made. We have 4,000 federal prisoners and their arms; 4 six pound cannon, all their tents, wagons, etc. We bagged the whole concern. There was about a fourth of our men in the engagement; the balance were placed around the works and held in reserve, so as to cut off any attempt at retreat. We had a grand time hauling down the stars and stripes that floated from the college roof. We lost very few men killed and wounded. The enemy had about 128 killed. Col. White and Col. Smith were both killed.

I will send the official reports as soon as they are published. Until then I cannot give the particulars. Clark's division was held in reserve and was not in the fight. I fired some five or six shots on Friday morning at their heads as they would show them above the bank. We are camped three and a half miles from town. We left camp on Wednesday morning after breakfast and stayed away until 8 o'clock on Friday night. Slept on the bare ground two nights without blankets and many of us without coats. Our food (two meals a day) was cooked in camp and sent to us.

The enemy's fortifications were made around the Masonic college and embraced five acres. Deep and wide ditches were dug on the outside, and the dirt thrown up five or six feet high. They also had inside ditches and embankments. The ground in front of the outside ditch was mined and powder placed underneath to blow our men up when they made a charge. We attacked them in the rear, however, and all their schemes failed. The federals burned fifteen or twenty of the finest houses in town between our first attack on Thursday evening and the following Monday. They have nearly ruined this town and county by their robberies.

We need some more blankets and quilts. We are cold every night. If you have a chance to send us some bacon it would be very acceptable. I may come home for a few days as we will probably stay here two weeks. I believe the Supreme Ruler is on our side. We have to fight murderers and thieves, and have always whipped them and always will. Your son,

W. S. HYDE.

Killed by Train.

Ebenezer B. Porter was run over and killed by a train on the Missouri Pacific railroad late Thursday afternoon.

At the road crossing just west of the bridge over Little Sul creek, two miles east of Wellington, the fatality occurred. Mr. Porter was a brother to the proprietor and was in the employ of the Wellington Milling company. He had been to Lexington with a load of flour and was returning home when he was killed. He was crossing the track at the point named when the west bound passenger train, due at Wellington at 5:34 p. m., crashed into and demolished the wagon, injured both horses, so that one had to be killed, and killing, as has been said, Mr. Porter. The body of the unfortunate man was dragged under the wheels of the cars about 140 feet and was horribly mutilated.

Deceased was about 54 years of age and leaves a wife and one daughter—adopted.

Died Thursday Morning.

William H. Sheets died at his home in Lexington at 9 o'clock Thursday morning.

Mr. Sheets was a native of Lexington and was 45 years of age. He leaves a wife, Mrs. Anna E. Sheets, and three sons, Roscoe E., George W. and Arthur R. Sheets, to whom the sympathy of the community goes out in their great bereavement.

The funeral took place at half past two o'clock Friday afternoon at the home of the afflicted widow, and services were conducted by the Rev. Dr. E. C. Gordon, pastor of the Presbyterian church.

Col. Joseph Davis Dead.

Col. Joseph Davis, who was a resident of Lexington for forty years, died at his home at Walker, Mo., Monday morning and the remains were taken to Clinton, Henry county, for interment. Deceased was about 88 years of age.

Mr. Davis had many friends here who will learn with sorrow of his demise. He stood high and was liked by all who knew him.

A telegram came to Judge Richard Field Monday afternoon apprising him of Mr. Davis' death.

The deceased has no relatives here.

Mr. Gamble's deep, useful and finely modulated voice well deserves the many encomiums it has won, and it charmed its hearers last evening so that the singer was recalled even after the close of the programme. Detroit Free Press. At New Grand Saturday night.

MARIA HALPIN IS DEAD.

Her Name Figured in Presidential Campaign of 1884.

READERS WILL REMEMBER INCIDENT.

Beecher's Defense of Cleveland—Had Suffered Similarly Himself.

Maria Halpin is dead. And so retired was her life in New Rochelle, where she lived for so many years, and died, that many of her nearest neighbors had forgotten or had not heard the story of 1884, which stirred the nation and figured so largely in the campaign that preceded the election of Grover Cleveland to the presidency of the United States, says the New York Herald of recent date.

In a neat frame cottage in the Westchester town she died on Thursday, after a week's suffering from pneumonia, and almost the last thing she did was to beckon her husband, Wallace Hunt, to her bedside and say: "Do not let the funeral be too public. I do not want strangers to come and gaze on my face. Let everything be very quiet; let me rest."

And her husband, grief-stricken, would not talk of her life or death because she had asked him not to. Her sister, who came from an up-state town, sat sobbing in the little parlor where the coffin lay. Her son, a man of twenty five or thirty years, who was only known to the undertakers as "Mr. Halpin, from some town up the Hudson," had arrived in time to see his mother die and look at her in her coffin. Then he had gone away.

Maria B. Halpin, as she signed herself to the affidavit on October 28, 1884, ten years after the birth of her son, in which she made charges against Grover Cleveland, was married three times—first, to Frederick Halpin, who died before she went to Buffalo in search of employment and where as a widow she met the man who has since twice been elected president of the United States; the second time to Albert Secor, with whom she lived many years in New Rochelle, and the last time, about three years ago, to Wallace Hunt, of the same town, who conducts a prosperous zinc and tin store there.

She lived in New Rochelle during the campaign of 1884, and had lived there ever since.

Many in New Rochelle had never heard the story that stirred the country in 1884; others had forgotten the chief features of the story, and some did not know that Mrs. Wallace Hunt or Mrs. Albert Secor, as she had been known, was Maria Halpin.

The funeral will be held on Sunday, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, the Rev. Francis E. Smith officiating, but none seem to know whether her son, the young Mr. Halpin, who called yesterday, will be there. The undertaker said she was between 55 and 60 years old, he thought, but would not say anything more as he had been forbidden to talk.

Possibly one of the most dramatic incidents of the Cleveland-Blaine campaign, growing out of the Maria Halpin charges, was in Brooklyn, where she was born, Mary Hoverton as it was stated in New Rochelle, yesterday.

Henry Ward Beecher, advocating the election of Mr. Cleveland, read the presidential candidate's letter to Mr. Beecher denying the charges of immorality in Buffalo and Albany, and then said:

"When, in the gloomy night of my own sufferings, in years gone by, I sounded every depth of sorrow, I vowed if God would bring the day star of life to me I would never suffer brother, friend or neighbor to go unbefriended should a like serpent seek to crush him. If I refuse to interpose a shield of well placed confidence between Grover Cleveland and the swarm of liars that nestle in the mud, or sling arrows from ambush, may my mouth and my right hand forget its cunning."

After the death of her first husband Mrs. Hunt went to New Rochelle, and was a housekeeper and governess in several of the wealthy families. Former President Cleveland also had many friends in New Rochelle.



Fletcher, in his inaugural address, stated that "they (the railroads) are ample security for the amounts advanced to them respectively."

"Despite this fact stated by the governor, in 1868 the roads were sold for \$6,131,406, although the bonds and interest at that time amounted to \$31,735,846. The state was loser by these transactions which extinguished its liens in the exact amount of \$25,604,344.

This enormous loss to the people and this great burden they have been carrying for more than thirty years, was the direct result, in part at least, of the corrupt use of money to debauch the state legislature, as is clearly shown by the records of the United States court at St. Louis. These records show that \$193,648.50 was expended by the Missouri Pacific railroad alone to secure the release of the state's lien upon that railroad.

"The democratic party came into power on the first day of January, 1873. At that time the bonded indebtedness was \$31,768,000. This debt was increased \$145,410 by the issue of a bank stock refunding bond and a bond to meet the liabilities of the penitentiary. The total bonded liability, therefore, at the beginning of the period of democratic control was \$32,913,410.

"During the period of democratic ascendancy, \$40,756,997.94 have been expended, exclusive of refunding bonds, in the reduction of the bonded debt and the payment of interest.

"In view, therefore, of the rapid approach of the auspicious time when the last of our bonds will be paid, it may be well, when that period